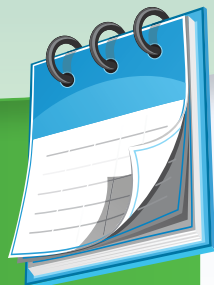


## SAVE THE DATE!

MRN/ SWANA  
Annual Conference  
"Road to Zero Waste"  
June 19 & 20, 2014



## MRN/SWANA CONFERENCE AGENDA

This year's conference is entitled "The Road to Zero Waste ... What Lies Ahead". The technical sessions and roundtable discussions will provide an overview of zero waste initiatives nationwide looking at technology, funding issues, politics, results to date, and more.

## EPA AWARD UPDATE



In April the Montgomery County Resource Recovery Facility received a prestigious 2014 EPA Clean Air Technology Award in recognition of an upgrade to the Selective Non-Catalytic Reduction System that reduces emissions. From left to right -- accepting the award from EPA Administrator Janet McCabe were Mark Freedman from Covanta, Steve Blake from the Authority and Bill Davidson from Montgomery County.

## RUDOLPH S. CHOW APPOINTED TO AUTHORITY BOARD

**R**udolph S. Chow, P.E., Director of the Baltimore City Department of Public Works (DPW), has been appointed to the Authority's Board of Directors, representing the City of Baltimore.



Mr. Chow brings more than 30 years of managerial and executive experience in public works to his position. Most recently he served for three years as deputy director where he was responsible for the City's Bureau of Water and Wastewater, which serves approximately 1.8 million residents of Baltimore City and Baltimore County.

Before coming to Baltimore, Mr. Chow spent 27 years at Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) in Laurel, MD working his way up from civil engineer to team chief and interim deputy general manager. His experience includes planning, designing, and operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment processes, and directing water and wastewater maintenance activities. Mr. Chow's experience includes

managing hundreds of employees, multi-million dollar budgets and services that impact hundreds of thousands of people. Both the Baltimore City DPW and the WSSC have combined operating and capital budgets of nearly \$1 billion.

Mr. Chow earned his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from George Washington University and his master's degree in Environmental/Water Resources Engineering from the University of Maryland. He holds Professional Engineer licenses in Maryland and Delaware.

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# AUTHORITY SEEKS TO LEARN MORE AND SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT ZERO WASTE

**Z**ero waste is a term that refers to the goal of minimizing waste production first, then maximizing the amount of recovered material – ultimately trying to achieve zero waste for disposal.

It's an important buzz word in waste management and a growing priority among Authority Member Jurisdictions who continually seek to increase their recycling and diversion rates. Coupled with this trend legislation has recently been considered that would mandate increased recycling and diversion. To assist our Member Jurisdictions in making strategic adjustments to their existing recycling efforts, the Authority is learning more about innovative zero waste programs. With this goal in mind, Authority staff recently attended the SWANA "Road to Zero Waste" Conference in March and presented at the County Engineers Association of Maryland Annual Spring Conference in April.

## SWANA Conference

Waste management consultants, industry and government officials and advocacy groups gathered in March for the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) "Road to Zero Waste" Conference. Presenters offered insights on how to implement projects that directly impact the amount of material diverted from landfills. The opening panel presentation focused on the application of anaerobic digestion in the municipal and private sectors. Anaerobic digestion is the controlled degradation of organic material without oxygen to produce a biogas (methane) that can be cleaned and used to generate electricity or can be further compressed into a vehicle fuel (CNG). Conference participants learned about the challenges of siting, design and public acceptance

for these facilities. The panel referred to a private collections operation in San Francisco, which will generate enough CNG to power its collection fleet. Later that day, several presenters spoke on the topic of recycling in the planning and execution of special events. Examples included the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro Am and the Ohio State University program for home football games.



The second day of the conference consisted of policy discussions, ranging from Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) to product based legislation. Differing voices on EPR were heard, as some presenters advocated for manufacturers to pay local jurisdictions for management of end-of-life products, thus providing local control. Other EPR proponents argued for manufacturers to bear the cost and management obligation for their products, which would increase efficiencies associated with large scale materials management. Job creation also was addressed in several of the discussions, with some speakers suggesting that recycling will create more local jobs than disposal because of the need for separation and processing of the feedstock. Of particular interest was a summary of the special collections program for batteries in

the Regional Municipality of Durham, Ontario, Canada. The municipality coordinates with a local battery recycler and the selected waste-to-energy processor to promote battery collection from the curb.

Conference attendees had the option of touring the Monterey Regional Waste Management District operations, including its new pilot dry fermentation plant. The larger landfill facility has a sizeable green waste composting operation, an area for the composting of digestate from the dry fermentation process, a materials recovery facility, a household hazardous waste building, a landfill gas-to-energy facility, and a "Second Chance" store for unwanted but otherwise useable materials.

## County Engineers Association Spring Conference – Turf Valley

Authority Deputy Director Andrew Kays gave a presentation on zero waste to the County Engineers Association of Maryland Annual Spring Conference at Turf Valley Conference Center in April. The presentation was part of larger technical session titled "Moving toward Zero Waste/Curb-side Food Scrap Collections," which included a presentation on the Howard County pilot food scrap composting facility. Andrew's presentation was designed to provide conference participants with some background information on the topic of zero waste, identify prototype jurisdictions that are undertaking the zero waste planning process and give attendees an idea of how they, as engineers, may be impacted by zero waste discussions.

Andrew said that understanding the concept of zero waste begins with the idea that mindsets need to be changed in order to achieve a reduction in the

*Article continued on page 3.*



amount of discarded materials. County infrastructures may also need to be modified somewhat. Community leaders, planners and residents will need to work together to review current practices and to map out policies and programs that will lead to more diversion of materials from the waste stream and minimize discards. Andrew pointed out that among the jurisdictions that are becoming zero waste communities there is a spectrum of ideas on the management of “what is left.” While some jurisdictions plan to use landfill disposal to manage materials that cannot be readily recycled in a way that avoids

thermal treatment, other jurisdictions include waste-to-energy as a component of the management regime, seeking to capture the resident energy in the discards. Extended Producer Responsibility (ERP) also was discussed, particularly as it applies to difficult to manage materials like mattresses and non-rechargeable batteries.

The Maryland Department of the Environment has issued a draft zero waste plan for public review and comment. This plan will further develop the ideas presented in the 2012

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act Plan issued by Governor Martin O’Malley in July 2013 and provide a potential roadmap for Maryland to pursue zero waste. The plan is available for review at: <http://www.mde.state.md.us/programs/Marylander/Pages/ZeroWastePlan.aspx>

For more information on the Road to Zero Waste Conference, please go to: <https://swana.org/Events/RoadtoZeroWaste.aspx>

## FREDERICK REGIONAL WASTE-TO-ENERGY FACILITY MOVING FORWARD



**T**here have been several important developments over the past few months concerning the Frederick Regional Waste-to-Energy Facility (the Facility). After a three year permitting effort, which included public meetings and hearings and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) responding to approximately 1800 comments, the Facility received its five major environmental permits from the MDE on February 21. Of those five permits, the noncontact cooling water discharge permit has been challenged with a petition for judicial review by an environmental group. The Authority expects that the permit will be upheld by the court, but this challenge will likely take at least six months to resolve.

Additionally, in April the Authority took two actions to prepare for construction financing. The first action was to release Carroll County from the project. Carroll County had previously requested that the Authority search for a replacement

partner, as Carroll County elected officials no longer believed the project suited their future waste disposal plans. The Authority, in concert with Carroll County, Frederick County and Wheelabrator, the designer, builder and operator of the Facility, worked together to release Carroll County from the project. This step will clear the way for a new partner to join the project, either in the form of another government or a private sector entity.

The Authority also initiated a solid waste transportation and disposal contract procurement on behalf of Frederick County to replace the County’s current contract, which will end in April, 2015. The recently issued procurement seeks pricing to provide for temporary transportation and disposal of Frederick County’s non-recycled waste received at the County’s transfer station until the Facility is constructed and operations begin. The procurement is also seeking pricing for a vendor to deliver waste to the Facility in order to potentially fill the capacity intended for Carroll County, to

fill the excess capacity reserved for future growth in Frederick County and to transport and dispose or recycle ash from the Facility. In addition, options for a 20-year or longer contract for transport and out-of-county disposal for Frederick County’s non-recycled waste are being sought. All of the information gathered from the procurement will be evaluated by the Authority and Frederick County before making a decision to finance the Facility.

The Authority anticipates a busy next several months as we seek a replacement partner and work to bring a complete information package to the Frederick County Commissioners for their review and final decision.

More information on the Frederick Regional Waste-to-Energy Facility can be found at [www.nmwda.org/frederick](http://www.nmwda.org/frederick). For more information on the solid waste transfer and disposal procurement go to [http://www.nmwda.org/how\\_to\\_work/procurement\\_opportunities.shtml](http://www.nmwda.org/how_to_work/procurement_opportunities.shtml)



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# WASTEWATCH

building a greener future

## CONTRACT WITH WM FOR SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING TO PROVIDE FREDERICK COUNTY WITH NEW REVENUE



aste Management (as WM Recycle America LLC) will continue to transport and process recovered materials

received at the Frederick County Reich's Ford Landfill Transfer Station to the Company's Elkridge and Capitol Heights Material Recovery Facilities. The company has been providing this service to the County since 2008. However, under this new contract, Frederick County will gain additional revenue from some of the recyclable materials. An RFP was issued by the Authority in August, 2013. In January, the Board of Frederick County Commissioners and the Board of the Authority approved the recommendation to award the new service contract to WM.

Recovered materials are the single stream recyclable materials that are separated from the waste stream at the curb by homeowners and businesses in the County.

The Authority's contract with WM is a revenue generating contract based on the market values of recyclable commodities, offset by the service fees for processing and transportation. Industry standard indices determine the market value of the commodities and are applied to the County's commodity tonnage allocations. These allocations are based on the County's single stream sort data, which provides a break-out of the various material classes in the combined recyclables. This contract mechanism is similar to those of other Authority

Member Jurisdictions with single stream programs.

Under this new contract with WM, Frederick County will receive revenue for plastics 3-7, bulky rigid plastics and plastic film, all of which provide a revenue source that was not included in the old contract. In addition, the contract reduces the County's payment for residue and eliminates payment for WM to process mixed broken glass. The County will continue to receive an annual grant from WM for recycling outreach and education.

For more information regarding this single stream recycling contract or other regional opportunities, please contact John F. Schott III at 410-333-2730